

REMARKS

Claims 22-29 are pending. Claims 22, 23 and 29 have been amended. Claims 1-21 have been canceled.

Claims 1-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Deihl (WO 94/13280) in view of Fassberg et al (EP 0656206) and further in view of Kanios et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,719,197).

Claims 1-21 have been canceled. Claim 21 has been amended to depend from independent claim 23. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-29 are provisionally rejected over claims 27-34, 54-59 and 80-80 of co-pending Application No. 09/537,118 (the '118 application) in view of Kanios. The '118 application has not been allowed and in view of the above, Applicants believe that the present application is in a condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the provisional rejection be withdrawn and the claims allowed.

Dated: February 7, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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